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HOUSE MEMORIAL 52

49TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2009

INTRODUCED BY

John A. Heaton

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING THE INTERIM RADIOACTIVE AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
COMMITTEE TO STUDY AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS ON NEW MEXICO'S
PARTICIPATION IN AND IMPLEMENTATION OF INITIATIVES RELATING TO
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS.

WHEREAS, the New Mexico legislature has taken action to
reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, the state of New Mexico, through the office of
the governor, is a signatory and participant in the western
climate initiative; and

WHEREAS, the western climate initiative has issued its
final design recommendations for the western climate initiative
program, which calls for western climate initiative
participants, including New Mexico, to impose mandatory caps on
greenhouse gas emissions covering most sectors within their

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1 jurisdiction; and

2 WHEREAS, the implementation of the western climate
3 initiative final design recommendations for a regional program,
4 and participation of New Mexico in the initiative, will require
5 the adoption of appropriate legislation by the New Mexico
6 legislature; and

7 WHEREAS, the implementation of the program will have
8 undetermined impacts on the state's emissions, economy,
9 taxpayers, consumers and industry and, especially during an
10 economic recession, is of critical interest to the citizens of
11 New Mexico; and

12 WHEREAS, the environmental benefits, economic costs,
13 risks, tradeoffs and uncertainties to New Mexico of
14 participating in the western climate initiative regional
15 program, or of participating in a federal program, must be
16 objectively assessed and the results openly communicated and
17 discussed by public policymakers and stakeholders in advance of
18 the implementation of any proposed New Mexico greenhouse gas
19 emissions reduction program;

20 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF
21 REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO that the interim
22 radioactive and hazardous materials committee be requested to
23 study and evaluate the western climate initiative final design
24 recommendations as well as federal proposals relating to
25 implementation of programs created to reduce greenhouse gas

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1 emissions; and

2 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to
3 study, evaluate and issue recommendations for legislation,
4 policies, programs and regulatory approaches, including the
5 authority of the state to regulate interstate power sales and
6 greenhouse gas emissions from nonwestern climate initiative
7 entities and from tribal lands and for approaches proposed by
8 the western climate initiative that will enable the state to
9 achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions at reasonable
10 cost; and

11 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to
12 consider and address the environmental benefits of such
13 reductions, as well as the economic and fiscal impacts to New
14 Mexico taxpayers, consumers and industry resulting from the
15 adoption and implementation of a greenhouse gas program,
16 including the impacts to gross state product, state income,
17 employment, taxation and revenues and price impacts on
18 electricity, natural gas and petroleum products; and

19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee be requested to
20 report its findings and recommendations to the New Mexico
21 legislature by December 2010; and

22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be
23 transmitted to the governor, the president pro tempore of the
24 senate, the speaker of the house of representatives, the public
25 regulation commission and members of the interim radioactive

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1 and hazardous materials committee.

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